

The Brooklyn Jewish Center Review

June-July, 1950

INVESTING IN ISRAEL—WHAT AMERICAN
BUSINESSMEN SHOULD KNOW ABOUT INVESTMENTS
IN THE NEW STATE

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By WILLIAM I. SIEGEL

NEWS OF THE MONTH

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According to its practice the *Review* will suspend publication during the summer months of July and August, resuming with the Rosh Hashonah issue. It will contain the New Year Greetings. Center members and others who wish to avail themselves of this welcome and effective means of conveying Rosh Hashonah Greetings to their friends are urged to reserve space early. Please communicate with the Center office.

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BROOKLYN JEWISH CENTER REVIEW

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A DISTURBING DEVELOPMENT

A STRANGE and disturbing note has come to public attention recently in the form of a report by the International Refugee Organization, created by the United Nations with jurisdiction in the matter of displaced persons camps in Europe. It is to the effect that Jews still in such camps located in Austria are refusing in large numbers an opportunity to settle in Israel. The reason—and the sole reason—assigned for this attitude is that the reports given to the camp inhabitants by persons returning from Israel have pictured such deplorable living conditions there as to dishearten and discourage prospective immigrants. These reports referred to lack of housing, lack of employment, lack of food.

It is a strange phenomenon, indeed, to find Jews, living in the misery of Austrian displaced persons camps who, nevertheless, fail to avail themselves of the opportunity to emigrate to Israel. It can readily be understood that such an attitude has provoked a critical response from some American Jews. They point to the difference between such a frame of mind and the self-sacrificing attitude and career of the *chalutz*, who, over more than a generation ago, and in the face of greater obstacles, turned Palestine from either a barren waste or a malarial swamp into the present land of Israel.

Such criticism, however, is unrealistic. It fails to take into consideration the actual state of being of the Jew in the Austrian displaced persons camps. He is a human being who for more than a decade lived under inhuman conditions and was subjected to inhuman stress and strain. It is small wonder that his ex-

periences during that period have so sapped his physical vitality as to have warped his mental and spiritual stature. He must, in justice, be judged not alone by what he says and does but by, and in the light of, these antecedents which have made him what he is. And even being what he is, he is still the ward of the Jewish people. He is, nevertheless, a part of the remnant whose ingathering must be fully completed before the Jews

of the world can lay unto their souls the balm that they have healed the wounds of Israel.

Our reaction in America must be not to criticize, not to condemn, but to redouble our efforts in behalf of the United Jewish Appeal so as without delay and in full measure to contribute to the building up of the State of Israel to such a point that not even the mentally and spiritually crippled can be averse to a life there.

—WILLIAM I. SIEGEL.

THE NEW ATTITUDE TOWARDS ISRAEL

BUT a short month ago complaint was made in these columns that the State Department was permitting itself to play the game of British imperialism *vis-a-vis* Israel and the Arab countries in the matter of military arms. It was pointed out that the State Department had embargoed the sale of such arms to Israel at the very time that the British were shipping great volumes of military stores to the Arabs.

The latest development has created a *volte face* in the situation. The State Department, in common with the French and British Governments, has made the announcement that these three western powers have agreed to furnish arms to Israel and the Arabs alike for the purpose of security against external aggression, and have further mutually agreed to guarantee the existing borders of the respective countries. It is a declaration which on its face is of great moment and which, if kept, can influence the course of history.

Is there room for a belief in the sincerity of the promise? Are the prospects of the future to be judged only by the

past or may we hope that the agreement represents a true conversion: first, on the part of the British and, secondly even though in markedly lesser degree, on the part of France and the United States? Dogmatism, in this case, is of course out of place, for we cannot read the mind of Bevin nor do we know the thoughts of his *vis-a-vis* in the State Department and at the Quai Dorsay in Paris. Yet, there do appear to be circumstances validating the belief that the agreement will be kept. A continuance of the arms race between Israel and the Arabs, with the concomitant failure to establish the peace between these countries would almost inevitably lead to a war between them. Such a war on the littoral of the Mediter-

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"JUST BETWEEN OURSELVES"

"JEWISH JOURNAL"

An Intimate Chat Between Rabbi and Reader

MY DEEPEST THANKS AND GRATITUDE

I WANT to utilize this space to give expression to the feeling of gratitude that fills my heart at this moment.

I am grateful to our Heavenly Father for the restored health that is mine after the weeks of pain and suffering that I endured. I am grateful to my friends and the physicians—both those connected in the various departments of the hospital and those outside, who showed their interest in me and who endeavored to raise my morale with their kind attention.

I am grateful to all those who thought of me during my illness, whose good wishes and prayers had a share in the restoration of my health. I want especially to thank my many friends in the Center and in the community who expressed their affection and good wishes

in so many ways—in the contributions that they made to the United Jewish Appeal, to the Torah Fund and to many charitable institutions, accompanied by prayers for my recovery; for the flowers, books, get-well cards and personal letters that I received; for the many inquiries that were made; for all the signs of friendship that were displayed towards me.

Unless one is very sick, it is difficult to appreciate what such sympathetic acts mean to a patient. Even in the moments of severest pain, they act like a tonic which gives you added courage to endure the hardships; you feel that others are helping you to fight the battle for restored health.

And, of course, my heart is overflowing with gratitude to my beloved wife

ranean might well be the Sarajevo of World War III, for it could furnish the pretext for Russian intervention, which, in turn, would inevitably and automatically embroil the Western Powers. Even the debased statesmanship of Bevin can comprehend such a development. Certainly, an American Secretary of State, intent on building up the strength of European allies by a financial Marshall Plan and a military and naval Atlantic Pact, knows the force of such a factor. The French, with the greater portion of their effective army locked in the indecisive warfare in *Viet Nam*, cannot wish within foreseeable time, to be once more the battle-ground of a world war.

These considerations alone, aside from any question of international fairness, are sufficient as a basis for the new declaration of policy. They should, in equal degree, be a basis for honoring and keeping the pledge now made.

An interesting speculation arises out of the situation. The foreign policy of Israel to date has been not to align itself with either side in the East-West controversy. It is to the best interests of Israel, and perhaps of a war-threatened world, that the new nation may become the Switzer-

land of the Near East. Will it be possible for Israel to continue this policy? The history of the events antedating the establishment of the State has created a debt of gratitude to the United States. However, Israel has owed something, if not as much, to the favor of the Russians because, in critical periods, the Russians have worked and voted for Israel in the United Nations. One is perhaps naive in even believing that such considerations enter into the making of foreign policy; but in the matter of foreign policy one never knows what the next gyration will result in. Obviously, as well as apparently, no speculation can be dismissed as being too speculative in the light of international developments in the last five years. Perhaps, the only well-founded point of view in these premises is the hope that Israel will never be compelled to make a choice because there will never be the necessity for one. A third world war is so likely to be the final Götterdämmerung for all mankind that we must hope, even in the times when so-called statesmen make the hope seem dim, that somehow the nations will achieve a peace resting on the solid foundations of mutual agreement and mutual trust.

—WILLIAM I. SIEGEL.

and helpmate and to my devoted children for their share of loving attention which they showered upon me. Needless to say that a good and loving wife, during such an ordeal, suffers more emotional and physical strain than the patient himself.

I hope and pray that God may spare all of us from every illness and pain. I hope and pray, too, that I may soon go back to my full duties in our beloved Center, with renewed health and strength, working together with you for the further glory of our faith and our people.

Israel H. Ben-Zion

THE LOSS OF HYMAN AARON

OUR Center and the entire Jewish community of our Borough have sustained a great loss in the passing of our beloved friend and co-worker, Vice-President of our institution and member of our Board of Trustees, Mr. Hyman Aaron. The writer of these lines was privileged to know Mr. Aaron intimately and to enjoy his friendship for 35 years.



Hyman Aaron

He was a gentle, kindly soul, humble in his bearing, and with a good word for all.

Mr. Aaron was a *Koben*, a descendant of the priestly tribe in Israel. And he was a true disciple of the first Aaron, the High Priest, "one that loves peace and pursues peace, a lover of mankind."

(Continued on page 18)

SINCE the establishment of Israel, over 400,000 people entered the State, whose population now numbers about 1,250,000 (including about 170,000 non-Jews). Over 90,000 of them are in camps.

Israel has adopted stringent austerity measures and is plowing back into its economy unprecedented amounts of savings.

A four-year plan for economic expansion in the fields of agriculture, industry, building and transport is currently in the making. Some of its aims were announced by Finance Minister Eliezer Kaplan when he introduced the 1950-51 budget in the Knesset on May 10. The plan anticipates an increase in Israel's population by 50% to 1,800,000 by the end of 1953. This will include a working population of 660,000 to 670,000, as compared with 345,000 at present. The national income—the net value of goods and services produced—is expected to rise from the 1949 total of \$600,000,000 to \$1.4 billion in 1953.

With regard to capital investment, the Israel Government hopes to divert a maximum portion of total income into productive facilities by reducing per capita consumption below even the current austere levels. In this way, it is anticipated that with a saving beginning at 5% of the national income in 1950 and reaching 13% by 1953, a total amount of \$437,000,000 will become available for investment purposes.

In order to carry out this plan, Israel will need a minimum of foreign investment capital totalling \$860,000,000 during the four-year period.

During the past two years, Israel has made great strides on all economic fronts. Between May, 1948 and February, 1950, about 280,000 immigrants have been housed. National output increased by 35% during that period. Since the population increased simultaneously by 65%, the actual output of products and services per capita decreased an average of 18%. The index of work days in industry showed an increase of 30% last December, as compared with the 1948 average; agricultural production in mixed farming in 1949-50 will be up 50%, as compared with the year 1947-48. In the

field of finance, the amount of deposits in banks and credit cooperatives rose about 40% between April, 1949 and March, 1950, while the amount of currency in circulation went up approximately 48%.

The increase in the amount of money in the hands of the population means additional purchasing power, which was further increased by the fact that Government successfully combated inflation and reduced the cost of living by 15% between April, 1949 and March, 1950.

In order to divert this purchasing power from the consumer market into productive channels, the Government's austerity, rationing and other control programs aim at reducing consumption and increasing investments of the local population, as outlined in the four-year program.

To attract foreign investment capital, the Knesset has recently passed the "Law for the Encouragement of Capital Investment," which has been in the making for over six months. The purposes of the law are: (1) to develop the productive power of the State and the absorption of large scale immigration; (2) to improve the balancing of payments through the reduction of imports and the increase of exports; (3) to promote the planned distribution of the population throughout the area of the State and the planned exploitation of natural resources and economic potential.

The law offers investors significant incentives in taxation, amortization and convertibility. It is designed to create a favorable environment for foreign investors. The enactment of the law should also serve to demonstrate that the people in Israel recognize the role of free and private enterprise in the development of the country. Among the main provisions are: tax benefits (see the *Brooklyn Jewish Center Review*, May, 1950); convertibility and transfer abroad of up to 10% of the investment into the foreign currency of the original investment on account of profits, interest or amortization; duty-free imports of machinery, equipment and other specified goods.

An Economist Tells What Businessmen Should Know About Investments in the New State

INVESTING IN ISRAEL

By ERNEST ASCHNER
of the Jewish Agency in New York

It is expected that the new measure will accelerate the flow of investment capital into Israel. There are signs that increasing numbers of American corporations and individuals are looking upon Israel as a favorable field for investments, as evidenced by the number of new enterprises already established in Israel with the help of American capital; by the number of inquiries received by the Israel Government Investment Center, the Israel Consulates abroad, and the Jewish Agency's Economic Departments in Israel and New York; and by the mounting sale of securities by U. S. corporations investing in Israel.

According to figures just released by the Israel Minister of Finance, 5,000 callers were dealt with in the Investment Center in Israel between May, 1949 and April, 1950. Of these, 1,000 were considered serious investors, 75% of them from abroad. Some 500 contracts for the establishment of new enterprises have been made; 54 enterprises are in the stage of construction or their building is assured by contracts. These include such enterprises as the \$2,500,000 Kaiser-Frazer car assembly plant in Haifa; the \$2,200,000 tire factory planned for Haifa by the General Tire and Rubber Company of Akron, Ohio, and the \$1,000,000 shoe factory being established in Jerusalem in association with the General Shoe Corporation of Nashville, Tennessee. Among American projects approved under the Investment Law are plants for the manufacture of pipe fittings, concrete walls, zippers, knitwear, ladies' dresses, electrical appliances, optical goods, tools and dies, spinning and weaving, plastics coating and numerous others, representing millions of dollars of direct private capital investment.

Additional millions are being invested through U. S. corporations which sell securities to individuals and invest the proceeds in Israel projects. The two leading companies are AMPAL—American

Palestine Trading Corporation, New York, and the Palestine Economic Corporation, New York, who have both made significant progress during the last year when they sold an aggregate of over \$7,500,000 worth of securities.

Ampal almost doubled its assets in 1949, from \$5.6 million at the beginning of the year to \$10 million at the year's end. The corporation is currently marketing \$10,000,000 ten-year sinking fund debentures. Ampal securities return a 4% cumulative and participating dividend on preferred stock and 3% on the ten-year debentures. The corporation was set up and is controlled by the Central Cooperative Institutions in Israel, which



The Latest In Israeli Sports Knitwear

supply the agricultural, industrial, building and trade cooperatives with long-term credits.

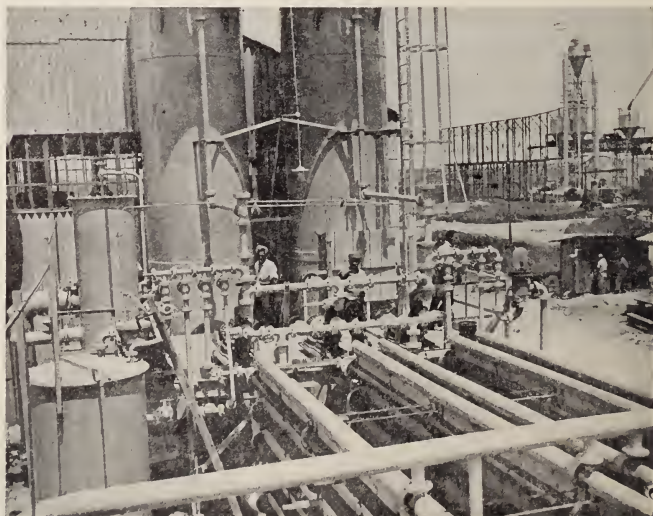
The Palestine Economic Corporation sold nearly \$2,000,000 worth of securities in 1949, bringing its gross assets to approximately \$7,800,000. Among PEC's recent investments in Israel were the establishment of two factories, the \$1.5 million Fertilizers and Chemicals, Ltd. and the Serafin Resinous Chemical Corp., Ltd.; a factory buildings project in Haifa, and a \$1.2 million office building in Tel-Aviv. The factory buildings project, jointly financed by the PEC and the Government of Israel, is the first instance of the Israel Government participating in a joint venture with a private enterprise. PEC declared dividends at the rate of 4% on the par value of each share last year.



A Group of New Buildings In Israel

There are a number of other corporations established in this country who invest the proceeds of their securities sales in Israel. In addition, a number of Israel housing and building corporations have established offices in this country for the sale of houses, apartments, building plots and mortgages to American investors.

Prospective investors who are interested in investment opportunities in Israel will find that the Israel Consulate in New York, or the Economic Department of the Jewish Agency, will give them detailed information on all aspects of investing in Israel in general and on any specific project they wish to pursue.



A Modern Fertilizer and Chemical Plant at Haifa

Building A Shoe Plant in Jerusalem

JERUSALEM'S largest factory now being constructed for the Jerusalem Shoe Corporation, associated with the General Shoe Corporation of Nashville, Tenn., is rapidly being completed on a two-and-a-half acre site in the Romema quarter. The \$300,000 building will cover a floor area of 35,000 square feet. It is of a one-story design for the manufacturing plant and a two-story design for office and utility use. The contract for construction of the plant calls for its completion within 100 days.

Mr. William Kretzer—of P. Kretzer & Son, New York, who designed the building and are in charge of construction—has just returned from Israel. The following is a summary of his impressions with regard to construction work in Israel. *Credit:* Published in the May issue of *Economic Horizons*, monthly publication of the Jewish Agency's Economic Department, New York.

"The productivity of the labor on our job is equal to or in some cases better than



These Are the Kind of Homes Israel Builds

was shown on a job we have just completed in Toronto, Canada.

"I believe that the supervision of a construction job with a personal 'know how' of the requirements will greatly induce a laborer, mechanic or supervisor to put

forth a great deal more effort in comparison to a job which is supervised and headed by a builder who has not had the personal practical experience of the actual work involved.

"This personal 'know how' brings out the best in the men on the job. One must enter the country willing to compromise with the local conditions and be willing to meet the local architect and builder half way.

"It took only six weeks to consolidate and obtain final plans and approvals from all departments, State as well as local.

"I attribute several factors to this success. The owners gave us complete charge of the design, as well as authority to work out a contract arrangement with a local builder. We engaged a capable local architect who used as much local material as possible, embodying American materials only where absolutely necessary to give the building the American touch which is, in my opinion, very important to the American investor. This method brought about a complete understanding of all parties and made it possible to obtain bids quickly from local contractors. We found their prices were equal to, and in some cases even lower than, American prices. The Jerusalem job was awarded to the Solel Boneh Ltd., in competition with three other contractors. Solel Boneh Ltd., has been most cooperative, and has gone out of the way to facilitate our work.



A New Addition to Israel's Merchant Marine, "The S.S. Hadar." Eight Ships Were Acquired In 1949.

ZOHAR – THE BOOK OF SPLENDOR

The following are excerpts from a new translation of "Zohar" in English, published recently by Schocken Books. They were selected by Rabbi Mordecai H. Lewittes.

SOUL, SPIRIT AND SUPER-SOUL

The "soul" (*nefesh*) stands in intimate relation to the body, nourishing and upholding it; it is below, the first stirring. Having acquired due worth, it becomes the throne for the "spirit" (*ruah*) to rest upon, as it is written, "until the spirit be poured upon us from on high." And when these two, soul and spirit, have duly readied themselves, they are worthy to receive the "super-soul" (*neshamah*), resting in turn upon the throne of the spirit (*ruah*). The super-soul stands pre-eminent, and not to be perceived. There is throne upon throne, and for the highest a throne.

THE FIRST LIGHT

"And God said, Let there be light, and there was light" (*Gen. 1:3*).

This is the primal light which God made. It is the light of the eye. This light God showed to Adam, and by means of it he was enabled to see from end to end of the world. This light God showed to David, and he, beholding it, sang forth his praise, saying, "O how abundant is Thy goodness, which Thou hast laid up for them that fear Thee." This is the light through which God revealed to Moses the land of Israel from Gilead to Dan.

"Let there be light, and there was light." To whatsoever the word *vayehi* (and there was) is applied, that thing is in this world and in the world to come.

Rabbi Isaac said: At the Creation, God irradiated the world from end to end with the light, but then it was withdrawn, so as to deprive the sinners of the world of its enjoyment, and it is stored away for the righteous, as it stands written, "Light is sown for the righteous" (*Ps. 97:11*); then will the worlds be in harmony and all will be united into one, but until the future world is set up, this light is put away and hidden.

GREATER THAN JOSEPH

Sitting one day at the gate of Lydda, Rabbi Abba saw a man approach and seat himself on a ledge which jutted out over

the hollow ground far beneath. The man was weary with travel, and fell asleep. Rabbi Abba beheld a serpent crawling toward the man, and it had almost reached him when a branch hurtled from a tree and killed it. Now the man awakened, and, seeing the serpent before him, he jumped up; at this instant the ledge collapsed and crashed into the hollow below.

Rabbi Abba approached the man and said: Tell me, why has God seen fit to perform two miracles for you, what have you done?

To which the man answered: Whosoever wronged me, at any time, always I made peace with him and forgave him. And if I failed to effect peace with him, then I refrained from going to take my rest before I forgave him, and along with him, forgave any others who had vexed me; at no time did I brood on the injury the man had done to me; rather, I made special efforts of kindness from then on to such a man.

At this Rabbi Abba wept and said: This man surpasses even Joseph in his deeds; that Joseph should have been forbearing toward his brethren and shown them compassion was only natural, but this man has done more, and it is meet that the Holy One, be blessed, work successive miracles for him.

JACOB'S DEATH

"And the days drew near that Israel must die" (*Gen. 47:29*).

Rabbi Hiyya said: Here, in the mention of his death, the name Israel is written, while above, in speaking of his life, he is called Jacob, as it is written, "And Jacob lived . . ." Why is this? Rabbi Yose replied: Remark now the word "days." Is it not strange, for a man dies only on one day, or rather, in one instant.

The reason, however, is this: When God has decided to receive back a man's spirit, he passes in review all the days of the man's life in this world. And happy the man whose days draw near to pass before the King without blame, with not a single one rejected on account of any sin therein. Thus, "draw near" is said of the righteous, inasmuch as their days draw near to pass before the King with-

out blame. And woe unto the wicked, whose days were all spent in sin and go unrecorded above, and hence their days cannot draw near. Of them it says: "The way of the wicked is as darkness; they know not at what they stumble" (*Prov. 4:19*).

Therefore it is written that the days of Israel "drew near," without blame and with unblemished joy; therefore is the name Israel used, to signify a greater perfection than the name Jacob.

OUT OF THE DEPTHS

"Out of the depths have I called unto thee, O Lord" (*Ps. 130:1, 2*). Because it stands without name of author, all men of all generations can take this Psalm for their very own. It is incumbent on any man praying before the holy King to pray from the depths of his soul, for then will his heart be entirely directed to God and his mind entirely bent on his prayer.

SERVE THE LORD WITH GLADNESS

It was incumbent on the High Priest to enter the Temple with gladness, and when he stood before His presence in that holy place, all things round about were bound to express gladness. So it is written: "Serve the Lord with gladness; come before His presence with singing" (*Ps. 100:2*). This is so for the reason that in the service of the Lord, there is no place for a dejected heart.

AN ALLEGORICAL EXPLANATION OF JONAH

The story of Jonah may be construed as an allegory of the course of a man's life in this world. Jonah descends into the ship: this is parallel to man's soul descending to enter into his body in this world. Why is the soul called Jonah (lit., aggrieved)? For the reason that she becomes subject to all manner of vexation when once she enters into partnership with the body. Thus, a man in this world is as in a ship crossing the vast ocean and like to be broken, as it is written, "so that the ship was like to be broken" (*Jonah 1:4*).

And then, too, man in this world commits transgressions, for he supposes the Master to be disregarding the world and

(Continued on page 22)

ON MAY 17, before a gathering of book-lovers assembled for the annual meeting of the Jewish Book Council of America, a prize was awarded to Dr. Guido Kisch for his volume, "The Jews in Medieval Germany." The choice was the result of deliberations by a number of men who had been entrusted by the Jewish Book Council with the naming of the best non-fiction book of the year 1949. The judges—Dr. Leo Jung, of the Jewish Center, Dr. Jacob Shatzky who is a noted historian, Dr. Joshua Bloch, who is chief of the Jewish Division of the New York Public Library, and the writer of this article—decided unanimously that no other book published during the past year contributed as much to the understanding of the Jewish past, and to an appreciation of the forces which have molded and are still molding Jewish life.

True, Dr. Kisch's volume may not be what is known as a popular book; so-called "average" men will certainly not read it for entertainment. On the other hand, since when are the values of scholarship subject to this type of democratic judgment? Furthermore, are there not, especially among Jews, still some men and women who might feel honored to have this volume on their shelf and even read a section of it now and then in order to satisfy an occasional pang of hunger for good, solid, reliable information? It is to introduce this volume to this type of intelligent reader that this article is written.

The very externals of the volume testify to its scientific approach. Its handsome appearance, as such books go, is a tribute to the Chicago University Press, which published it. Of its almost 600 pages 364 constitute the text of the discussion and all of 200 pages contain footnotes. Beyond the notes are about 45 pages of bibliography in a dozen different languages; and beyond that is an extensive index. Moreover, the notes and bibliography are not there merely for decoration; they are closely related to the text of the book. One must read text and notes together in order to get the full value and meaning of what the author has to say.

We talk about scholarship glibly in America, frequently applying the term loosely and indiscriminately to mere bookishness or to the possession of ob-

scure information. We thus rob the term of its essential meaning, if not of almost all dignity. Scholarship is founded, of course, on knowledge laboriously acquired; but to be fruitful it must also be served by a disciplined, creative imagination. It must be able to pick out the causes, or motives, behind the actions, and the facts behind the words which so often obscure them. Each historian places himself, so to speak, on a high vantage point from which he can look back and view the past. Each such vantage point affords a somewhat different panorama. One man sees for the most part how people in the past worked and earned their living; another how they related themselves to the society in which they lived and how they built up their institutions; a third sees how they worshipped God and draws conclusions about human fears and hopes and dreams.

No one scholar, studying the past from his own viewpoint, can see all of it at once. Life in the past, as in the present, was too complex for any one person to "see it steadily and see it whole." He sees it in perspective and that is how he describes it. The more such descriptions the rest of us learn to know the more exact our knowledge of the total past. It follows that we should be especially grateful to a historian who has found a new vantage point and therefore gives us the picture of the past from a new angle and in a new light.

Dr. Guido Kisch, in "The Jews in Medieval Germany," presents just such a new viewpoint in the study of the Jewish past. One of the foremost students of the history of German law, Dr. Kisch was professor at the Universities of Prague and of Halle and the author of a great many books and articles on the subject of his choice. While still in Germany, he had written also on aspects of Jewish history and cooperated with other scholars issuing a learned magazine called *Zeitschrift fuer die Geschichte der Juden in Deutschland*. Nazism drove Professor Kisch to the United States, and here he

*The Editor of the Jewish Publication Society
Describes a Notable New Work*

THE STORY OF A LONG STEP BACKWARD

By SOLOMON GRAYZEL

was invited to join the faculty of The Jewish Institute of Religion. Now more than ever he turned his vast learning and his creative mind to a combination of his two main interests in the history of the past: German law and Jewish destiny.

"Law," says Dr. Kisch, "as everyone knows, is a main pillar of social life." One has but to examine the laws of any period with some imagination to see how people lived and how they related themselves to one another. The law itself may be a dull and dry fact, but by telling what is permitted and what is prohibited it reveals what people considered good and bad, what authority they accepted or rejected, which social group had influence and which had none, and what people at a given time considered the proper kind of society. Changes in a law reflect and therefore lay bare the changes in the social group where that law prevailed. We have learned in recent generations to make use of Jewish law in this fashion, the Talmud, the various codes and the *She-e-lot u-Teshebut* serving as our source material. Dr. Kisch is the first to make a thorough study for this purpose of the non-Jewish, German law of the Middle Ages. Others before him have used Privileges granted the Jews in one or another country, or tried to set a single law into its general historical context. None until now has undertaken to probe an entire legal system, follow its development, trace its applications and draw therefrom conclusions about the life and destiny of the Jewish group. Such law, made by non-Jews and applicable to Jews, Dr. Kisch calls "Jewry Law," to distinguish it from laws made by Jews themselves for the regulation of their own lives, which we naturally call "Jewish Law." It is a valid distinction and a necessary one, and, although the expression "Jewry Law" may sound a bit harsh in English until one gets accustomed to it, it is apparently a term that has come to stay.

A considerable variety of legislation falls into this category. Scattered as the Jews were under many different authorities, laws regulating their relations to city, province and Empire accumulated during the centuries we call the Middle Ages. Which of these sets of law may be considered basic and most influential? Which expressed the fundamental attitude of the people among whom the Jews lived? Dr. Kisch answers these questions by calling attention to a compilation of German laws which has been known by the name of *Sachsenspiegel*. Eike von Repgow, a Saxon of the early 12th century, compiled this code of the traditional law of his province and also squared it with his ethical and religious sense. It soon became the standard work in German provinces and, modified in accordance with the customs of other places, or by the prejudices of some new editor, or by the new legal theories which time produced, it served as the guide for the generations which followed. If, then, we want to know exactly what the situation of the Jews was during the early period, before it was confused by new and more troublesome circumstances, the attitude of the *Sachsenspiegel* provides the answer. This law and attitude, moreover, served as guides for the most important court of law of those centuries, that of Magdeburg, which was looked up to as something of a Supreme Court and to which cases were referred by judges in other cities and provinces. Dr. Kisch collected all these statements of Jewry Law, those in the *Sachsenspiegel* and in its imitators, as well as the court decisions, and published them in a separate volume ("Jewry-Law in Medieval Germany," the American Academy for Jewish Research, Texts and Studies, III, New York, 1949). On the basis of these he presents in his new work a picture of the Jewish situation which is startlingly new and in some respects revolutionary.

It is obviously impossible to give more than a very few examples of this book's contribution to our knowledge of Jewish life during the Middle Ages. We have in the past been so obsessed with the stories of persecution that remarkably few books have been produced describing how the Jews actually lived and worked. The most famous work in this field, that by Moritz Guedemann, is about seventy years old and, though translated from

German into Hebrew ("Ha-Torah v'ha-Hayyim"), has never been translated into English. Israel Abrahams' "Jewish Life in the Middle Ages," is in a sense an interesting condensation of Guedemann's work; but little else of that nature has appeared. Dr. Kisch's book, though not intended to describe internal Jewish life, nevertheless provides some highly interesting sidelights. We learn, for example, that during the first thousand years of Jewish life in Europe, the Jews carried arms like any other free man of that day. They took part in the enforcement of law and in the defense of their places of residence against attack. It may well be that Jews participated in knightly tournaments; they certainly had the right of judicial combat. In the discussion of money-lending, Dr. Kisch fortifies the long-known fact, still ignored by almost all Christians, that Christian usurers were far from being a rarity all through the Middle Ages. Among the most interesting discussions in the book is that dealing with the special oath which Jews had to take in courts of law, with its strange ritual and extraordinary curses, revealing as much as anything else the black and gloomy corners of the medieval spirit.

The fact is, Dr. Kisch points out, that the *Sachsenspiegel*, this earliest compilation of German laws, shows almost no discrimination against Jews. Its motivating idea is impartial justice. Had this spirit continued to prevail, the story of the Jews in Europe would have been completely different. Yet, even while Eike

von Repgow was preparing this notable work, the entire Jewish position was being undermined. To be sure, the *Sachsenspiegel* continued for centuries to exercise its influence for justice and equality of treatment; it continued to express the Germanic spirit at its purest, so that the voice of the Magdeburg court, which based its decisions upon this code, occasionally was heard speaking with reason and impartiality. But new influences had begun to be felt; new forces made for inequality, prejudice and degradation.

These new forces were of three kinds: historical, religious and legal, though, of course, they overlap. The historical force was the need of the Jews for increased protection after the First Crusade. The position of the Jews in Europe, especially in the German provinces, had become so undermined by this outbreak of violence as to require their being taken under the wing of the secular government, that is, the emperor. Having been taken under such protection, they were deprived of the right to bear arms. Now arms were more than an ornament in the Middle Ages; they implied self-sufficiency, they were a mark of dignity, they gave status. To be deprived of them meant to be declassified. To need defenders has often meant to remain defenseless; and to be defenseless arouses contempt more frequently than pity. At the roots of prejudice there is always a large admixture of cowardice. The fact that the emperor soon thereafter announced that the Jews were the "serfs of his treasury," what-

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Ancient Rock Tomb Discovered In Israel

AN ANNOUNCEMENT by the Department of Antiquities stated that workers, while digging the foundations of a building near Romema, on the western outskirts of Jerusalem, had come across a rock-cut tomb.

Three loculi (niches) were cut into one of the walls of the tomb. In the first was a skeleton; in the second, two stone ossuaries, each containing the remains of two bodies. One of the ossuaries was inscribed "Yehuda" in Greek. The third loculus was empty and not blocked with rocks, as were the other two.

Other accidental discoveries have been reported from Tel Aviv, where roadworkers recently found ancient building

remains and parts of a tower or small fortress. Earth piled alongside contained coins dating back to the period of Antonius Felix, procurator of Rome in Judea between 52 and 60 C.E.

Near Tel Aviv port, the grave of a woman of the Hyksos period (era of the Patriarchs) was found. It contained silver rings, bronze needles, a scarab, and some pottery. In Beisan an ancient weight inscribed in Greek was found recently. Such weights, the Department said, were common in the area during the Hellenistic period. In Caesarea a broken tablet was found with an inscription of which only the word "Shalom" in Hebrew characters now remains.

"BUT, darling, don't you know?"
Fanni gasped.
"Should I?"

"He's terribly famous. Before Hitler . . . no, he couldn't, he's not that old . . . I guess it's before the war. Well, anyway, before something, he wrote an operetta . . . or was it a symphony? Everybody raved about it. . ."

Lisa looked into her sister-in-law Fanni's slightly protruding, slightly blood-shot, very large blue eyes and said sternly: "You're not making sense, Fanni."

"No, I'm not, am I? Well, anyway, when Mimi Sterne went to Karlsbad for the baths and got sidetracked and went instead to the Wagner Festival, because she changed at the wrong station and the train made a right turn instead of a left. . ."

"Madame!"

Lisa jumped at the rich baritone clap of thunder.

Fanni, however, glanced up, through a fluttering tangle of eyelashes and cooed, "Hans Behrent. How nice! How very nice!"

After both Lisa and Fanni had their hands kissed and Hans ceremoniously had seated himself, Lisa noticed the other, younger, man standing beside their table. At the same moment, Hans, as if recalling an event long since a memory turned toward him and said "I must introduce my friend, Emil Alesjander."

Gravely, almost austere, when compared to Hans' overflowing exuberance, Emil acknowledged the introductions and seated himself.

This, then, is the composer, or the Wagner Festival, or whatever it was that Fanni was trying to explain, thought Lisa, more conscious of his expressionless silence than of the kaleidoscope words of Fanni and Hans.

"You have written music, I understand," she said, sounding like a patronizing dowager addressing a poor student. "Yes," he answered.

"I didn't mean it . . . that way . . ." she paused, feeling the color creep into her cheeks. "What I meant is that I never heard . . ." she floundered on.

Then she noticed that his face was no longer expressionless. His eyes were smiling.

"I do not know what you do, either," he said calmly.

The Story of a Degrading Sequel to Persecution

A TALE OF OUR TIMES

By LORRAINE KOBRIN

Their eyes caught and held and both laughed. Fanni and Hans turned to them.

"A joke!" said Hans, clapping his fat hands.

Emil's face lost its smile and again set into the expressionless mold. And when Hans and Fanni pleaded to be told the joke, he replied, in a low voice, "It was nothing."

In the pause that followed, in the slightly nervous fumbling with menus; during the words, so casual words, exchanged too quickly, or too slowly, she tried to penetrate the blank wall of his face. Surrounded by animation, by warmth and music and food and laughter, by faces alive with emotion, he sat alone, barricaded behind his wall. . .

"And what was the purpose of that?" Lisa asked Fanni, referring to the luncheon, after Hans and Emil had left them.

Fanni shrugged. "He wanted me to meet Emil."

"Why?"

"Oh, you know, something about subsidizing a concert . . . or something."

"You?" Lisa questioned.

Fanni grinned. "Your name darling. Since I married your brother and got your father's name, everyone thinks I'm musical . . . and rich."

Lisa laughed. "He certainly didn't put himself out to make an impression. The most terrific thing about him was his silence."

And yet, during the days that followed, Lisa could not completely forget Emil. In his withdrawal, in his rejection of them and all those around them, was a quality that had caught and held her imagination. She wanted to know more about him. She wanted to speak to him again.

About two weeks after the luncheon she called Fanni and asked for his address and telephone number.

"Why, darling. . ."

She could see Fanni, clutching the telephone, her eyes narrowed with delight, at this new development.

"I want to see him." Lisa answered her unasked question.

"He was kind of attractive . . . Fanni

murmured tentatively.

"I'm interested in him musically." Furious with herself for lying, Lisa, nevertheless continued "I just came across a story concerning a Czech composer of the same name and wanted to ask him. . ."

"Of course, dear, he *can* help you editorially . . ." Fanni said soothingly.

"If it's too much trouble. . ."

"Oh, no! Here it is," hastily Fanni repeated a midtown telephone number.

They met at a cocktail bar in the East 50s and although it was late afternoon the place still felt hungover from the night before, smelling slightly of stale perfumes, fermenting liquors and stagnant emotions.

"What am I doing? What's the point?" Lisa wondered, pushing through the door. Then she saw Emil and the questions lost some of their vitality.

"Hello . . ." she said, extending her hand.

He held it for a moment and smiled as he said, "How are you?"

Sitting across from him, in the dimly lit room, very frankly she stared at him, trying to analyze what drew her to him.

"It is a little disconcerting . . ." he was still smiling.

"What?" she questioned, studying him.

"That direct gaze of yours."

"Oh." She giggled to hide her embarrassment.

"Even if I am to be the basis of a piece for your magazine. . ."

"How did you know of it?" she questioned.

"I wanted to know what you do."

"Why?"

Now it was his turn to stare at her. Slowly, thoroughly, she felt his eyes cover her face, her neck, bosom, hands. Slowly he answered, "Hans told me you were a valuable contact."

This unexpected frankness held her silent for a moment and then, equally coolly, she replied, "I am. My father was Leopold Karsov. He left a musical

reputation and a great deal of money. Also, my own job, as editorial writer on *Musical Moments*, can help make you popular."

"So Hans told me."

"Is that his purpose in life—keeping you informed?"

"Hans?" He fingered the stem of his cocktail glass. "He is the dancing bear—with a new audience. Did you know that dancing bears hate to dance? That they must be whipped by the trainer before each performance?"

"And you are his trainer?" she asked lightly.

"I—oh no. . . ."

The pause that followed lengthened into an uncomfortable silence. He reached for a cigarette; she reached for a cigarette. He made a great ceremony of lighting both.

"I'd like to hear some of your music," she finally said.

"When?"

"Now."

At that he looked directly at her, for a long moment, and then smiling faintly, shrugged, "Why not?"

He lived in a loft that previously had been used by a storage company. It was large and dim and dusty. And empty. In it were only a few boxes, a small cot and a large grand piano.

"You have a choice—this or this." He pointed to a small orange crate and to the cot. "The cot is more comfortable."

She sat on its edge, listening to the Third Avenue "L," the East River tugs, the automobiles below; immersed in the silence surrounding them.

"Well. . . ." he said.

"You promised to play," she reminded him.

"Yes."

It was music strange to her. Not patterned like a Chopin, nor rebellious like a Stravinsky, it had a plodding, monotonous quality. While listening, she remembered a farm woman, out in Wisconsin, sitting on a bench in a small station, waiting for a train. She had sat as peasant women sit, her back bent, her elbows resting on spread knees, waiting. . . .

Lisa told Emil of the woman and briefly, so briefly, she saw his face light up.

"You felt it," was all he said.

That was the beginning. The visits to his—studio-apartment—Lisa never knew exactly what to call it—never bothered to call it anything—soon became a regular occurrence. She came. She sat on the cot. She listened to the music. Sometimes she brought some beer, some sandwiches. Other times they went down to one of the "joints" on Third Avenue.

Her friendship with Emil was different than any she had ever known. She listened to his music. She wrote a few stories about it, about him. They talked of many things—the world and its ideologies—men and their madness—but never a word about themselves. It was as if he had formulated a rule that all that was personal, that concerned them as a man and a woman, must be ignored, must be eliminated.

Sometimes she would feel his eyes upon her and answering his gaze she would look up. Silently they would stare at each other. Then his eyes would drop and he would say something or walk to the piano and begin to play.

Then, one afternoon, late in the Autumn, when the dusk was even more shadowy for coming through the begrimed window, Lisa, turning to light the student lamp she had brought Emil during a previous visit, felt him standing behind her.

She faced him before he could walk to the piano and lightly put her hands on his shoulders. "Why?" she questioned.

"Why. . . ." he repeated in a bemused voice, his eyes upon her face.

And then, slowly, so slowly that she felt as if she were waiting through eons of time, he bent and holding her face with both his hands, kissed her lips. He held her very closely, for a long moment, and then moved from her.

"It is not good," he said.

"Why?" She walked around him, so that she could face him.

"You are different. You have not been through it all."

"Oh, for God's sake."

"No. I mean it. There was a woman. My wife. She was killed at Auschwitz. A child. A baby of seven months. My baby. Thrown against a wall by an SS man. Killed.

"But that's finished," Lisa reached for his hand. "I, too, was engaged to a boy

who was killed. For a while you weep; then the tears must dry. . . ." She knew it was not the same and in the dying syllables of the dying words, in his face turned reluctantly from her, she read defeat. Slowly she withdrew her hand.

"It is more even than they," he stared over her head into the dusky corners of the room. "It is living with cruelty, with madness. After that can any man live again with a woman? Can he trust himself. . . ."

"But you were not a part of it. Your music kept you safe."

"My music," he laughed. "Do you know why I am alive, while all the others of my group are dead? Because of my music. They liked it. Once, for three days I played. Without food. Without

EDDIE'S PANCAKES

EDWARD G. ROBINSON is a *latke* lover. When he contemplated his recent trip to Israel, he envisioned stacks of wonderful *latkes*. He was disappointed to find that Israel is not the home of Jewish cooking, and he did not have one typically Jewish dinner. So on his return he resumed eating *latkes* American style, and according to his specifications. His recipe for apple pancakes is as follows. (Housewives who find it doesn't work, please complain to Mr. Edward G. Robinson in Hollywood.)

Sift separately one cup of flour, add one-half teaspoon of salt and two teaspoons granulated sugar, sift together. Stir in one and a half cups cold sweet milk to make a smooth paste. Add four whole eggs, one at a time, and beat briskly. Peel and core three big sour apples, cut them into fine julienne strips, and marinate them in one-half cup lemon juice. Fold the apple strips into the batter and cook in well buttered individual frying pans by dropping two tablespoons batter into each buttered pan and cooking over a low flame until the cake is brown—about five or six minutes for each side. Another method is to brown larger cakes on one side, turn them over into a buttered baking dish or pan, and bake in a moderate oven (300 degrees) for an additional 8 to 10 minutes. Sprinkle the cakes with cinnamon sugar and serve very hot.

sleep. I, standing in a brothel, watching them eat, drink, have their women—I played, for seventy-two hours and I was afraid to stop, for fear they would kill me."

She shrank from the hatred in his look.

"Yes," he said, "my music kept me safe! I used it—as men use their cunning, their shrewdness and in the end I became debased—as any coward would. Don't you see—there's no part of me that they have not made rotten."

"But it's all over. It happened in a different life," she continued to insist. Seeing that he was not listening, fiercely she accused him, "You are still playing for them."

He answered with a triumphant bitterness, "It is as I told you—debased. There is no part of me they have not made rotten."

His back toward her, he walked to the piano. She picked up her jacket and the package of proofs and left the room.

She resolved that she would never, again, seek him out; that she would will her interest in him. Perhaps he was right. The life in the camps—concentration camps—DP camps—had changed him, perverted him. She was better away from him.

But, during the following week, at a musical reception she had helped arrange, partly for his benefit, she was conscious of no one else. Although she used elaborate devices to avoid his eyes and was flatteringly attentive to everyone else in the room, she knew his every movement. When most of the guests had left, he came over to her.

"Come," he said, taking her hand.

Without question, she went with him.

He took her to their favorite "joint." Oyer beer and sandwiches, he said in a complaining voice, "It is not as simple as I thought."

"What isn't?" she questioned.

"Getting rid of you."

"Your command of idiomatic English is vastly improved. In fact, you speak like a native."

"I said. . . ."

". . . that it was not easy. . . ."

". . . getting rid of you. . . ."

"Why try. . . ."

They walked to his place, through an evening swathed in fog, and the neon signs of red and blue and green seemed to gleam like jewels.

"I warned you," he said, holding tightly to her hand, inside his coat pocket.

"You warned me," she solemnly agreed and then both laughed.

"I love you," he continued.

"You love me," she agreed. "On Third Avenue you love me. Will you love me on Second—and on First?"

"You are a fool," he said, flipping an imaginary speck from her nose.

"I'm a fool. You're getting stuck."

"No, you are," his voice was now completely serious. "*Liebchen*, I warn you. There are moments . . . there are moods. . . ."

"I, too, have my moments . . . my moods . . ." and she laughed, her voice strong and sure in the chiffon fog.

Yet, when they came to his room, involuntarily she hesitated before entering.

"You see. . . ." he said.

"What is it I am supposed to see?"

"Just that one small memory . . . and it has left an impression. . . ."

Through the long white winter they saw each other almost every day, and their hours were full of exhilaration. They tramped through the park, challenging the biting wind, smearing their mouths and noses with jelly apples. When they went to the movies, they bought hot roasted chestnuts from the grinning Italian vendor. They delighted in doing childish things together, as if to make up for all the years, the years of difference, that lay between them.

Lisa saw a new, a lighter side, of Emil; gravely he would expound upon the difference between European and American snowballs or how long a beard must grow, according to international custom, before it was necessary to shave. He also told her of Elsbeth, the round-cheeked music student whom he had

married, "Just before the beginning of the end, when we were still hoping there would be no beginning . . . and no end . . ." and of Trudi, their baby, whom they had planned to make into a world-famous skier, because neither of them could ski. . . .

Sometimes Lisa would want to hold each day tightly to her and at other times she would want to fly quickly to the time when Emil would ask her to marry him, to help him to rebuild his life.

Once, inadvertently, she said something about marriage, a casual, insignificant remark.

Emil did not respond and she glanced at him, her surprise growing to astonishment, when she saw the deep lines into which his face had fallen.

"I am afraid, Lisa. Still. . . ."

Then, so soon, the winter that Lisa would always remember as perfect, like a scene under glass, was breaking up . . . the first tendrils of spring dissolving the etched black and whiteness into a smudged gray. . . .

In March the Philharmonic played one of Emil's compositions. Entitled "Hebraic Symphony," it had much of the dirge-like quality of his other works. Interwoven, however, was a melody of such sombre poignancy that Lisa could barely keep from crying out the first time she had heard it. Now listening to its enrichment by the magnificent orchestration, she felt it to be truly inspired.

Following the concert, Hans and Fanni and some other of their friends, insisted that Lisa and Emil come to a party. Grouped around the large table in the small French restaurant, they could not sufficiently praise "Hebraic Symphony." All except one. Herbert Alburton, a

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Britannica Finds a Resurgence Of Jewish Religion

THE 1950 *Britannica* book, just published by the *Encyclopedia Britannica*, contains many interesting facts on Israel and Judaism. It claims that there is a resurgence of religious feeling and interest among Jews in West European countries, to a larger extent in Belgium, Holland and France, and to a lesser degree in Italy. Not a few Jews in Europe who deemed themselves outside the fold because of their marriages to Christians are now attracted to the synagogue. The

establishment of Israel "disposed even agnostic Jews to believe in the possibility of miracles."

Mindful of the increasing role of religion in the life of U. S. Jewry, the local Jewish welfare funds allocated greater sums of the major achievements in Jewish education in 1949 was the provision of improved facilities to enable children in rural districts to come to a central point where they could obtain a better Jewish education.

The following is the preface written by Dr. Leventhal for a new work by Rabbi Mordecai H. Leventhal titled "The Student Bible (Chumash La-Talmid), and published by the Hebrew Publishing Company. Rabbi Leventhal is the co-author of several texts such as "Modern Hebrew" and "Select Readings in Hebrew Literature" which have been widely used in high schools and in colleges. THE STUDENT BIBLE, covers the first half of Genesis, and is intended as a text for the study of Chumash.

IT IS hardly necessary to tell the student of Jewish education the role that the Bible, particularly the Pentateuch, played in the educational system of the Jew. As soon as the child was able to read, he was initiated into the text of the *Chumash* which formed the foundation of all his Jewish studies.

But this was in the past. Today, the system of instruction has been changed. Modern educational theories hold that it is more advantageous for the child to begin his Hebrew instruction with simple stories of his every-day experience told in words which he can easily master. *Chumash* has been postponed for a later period, and in many cases, it has been altogether eliminated. This is indeed a tragedy, because the Pentateuch is still the source of the entire product of the genius of the Jew, the mainspring from which there emerged the civilization of the Jew.

It must be admitted, however, that it is not easy for the child to master many of the difficult words and phrases in the *Chumash* text. The author has endeavored to solve this problem by preparing a volume which would enable the child to become familiar with the principal contents of the Biblical books, at the same time eliminating those passages which are too difficult for the child's mind to grasp.

A number of similar attempts have been made in past years by prominent educators, and their Biblical abridgements have been used in many of our Hebrew Schools. "The Student Bible," however, has the advantage of many improvements, which should recommend it to every teacher and educator.

The author, who has specialized in the field of education, has utilized his rich experience in many innovations and improvements which are to be found in this

A NEW "CHUMASH" TEXT

By DR. ISRAEL H. LEVENTHAL

present volume. His main purpose was to create an interest in the child for this study and to maintain that interest. The original music to which a number of the passages have been set, the numerous artistic drawings which portray many of the incidents, are some of the methods adopted to win the pupil's interest.

The introduction in English to each reading selection helps the pupil grasp more easily the contents of the Hebrew passage. The exercises which follow every chapter have been prepared with great skill, and aid the child in retaining the Biblical words and phrases. Vocabularies for each lesson and a complete dictionary at the end of the volume will prove to be invaluable aids.

A happy innovation in this volume is the inclusion, at the end of each story,

of some of Rashi's beautiful interpretations and comments which give the student an insight into the deeper explanation of the Biblical words. Another innovation, which will prove of interest, is the explanation of the connection between each *Sidrah* and the *Haftorah* which has been assigned to it. This helps the child to understand an important feature of the Synagogue service.

I sincerely hope that this volume will succeed in winning our Jewish children to an understanding and a love of our Bible, which is our greatest contribution to world civilization, and which has remained throughout the ages the strength and the inspiration of all Jewish life.

Flowers and Vegetables From Israel By Air

IN ITS search for foreign currency the Jewish state is attempting to exploit every possible market abroad. It has even turned to the relatively small field of air transport of flowers, fruit and garden vegetables which are out of season in most countries of the world at just about the time they are in abundance in Israel.

Trial consignments of roses, gladioli and wild flowers to the U. S. and Switzerland by air, partly by Israel plane, were successful this winter. Although further experiments in the handling of flowers as transoceanic airfreight are still required, new orders were already received from Britain, France and Scandinavia on the strength of last winter's results.

Israel may soon export bulbs of gladioli, tulips and hyacinths. The quantities contemplated are naturally still small and next year will probably amount to only two tons of flowers at a price of up to 10,000 pounds in foreign currency, but within four years of an annual export cargo worth 250,000 pounds is foreseen.

Soon some thirty or more new immigrants' villages in the southern plain of Israel will also begin to turn in their produce, having been encouraged by the Ministry of Agriculture to include this

export crop in their gardening schemes for each family. It is hoped to double the flower acreage next year. Strawberries for export are also being introduced this year.

One of the major points on which plans for food exports are based is the fact that most crops ripen earlier in Israel than in other countries, earlier even than in North Africa. On this basis an exchange agreement has been worked out with Holland merchants, who ship potatoes here when the Israel crop is not available to take Israel surpluses of this crop in the Dutch off season. The only problem here is whether Israel can supply enough potatoes for the Netherlands market.

Small trial consignments of vegetables dispatched last winter to Scandinavia and other European countries arrived in good condition, but proved to be of varieties to which housewives there are not accustomed, so that changes will have to be introduced in local growing schedules for next season, together with more scrupulous grading. Cauliflower was sent by both sea and air, arriving in the European markets during the vegetable scarcity season in December. Tomatoes also survived an airtrip, but are not too plentiful at that time in Israel either.

NEWS OF THE MONTH

THE views of the Israel Government on the announcement by the Big Three Powers concerning their arms shipments policy for the Middle East were outlined in Jerusalem in a formal statement by Premier David Ben Gurion in the Israel Parliament. The Premier's statement was approved by 64 affirmative votes.

The Premier said that Israel was satisfied that the discrimination against it by the sale of arms to the Arabs and the refusal to permit the Jewish state to purchase weapons had been eliminated, but he pointed out that the tri-partite statement was a unilateral action. He emphasized that since Israel is and has always acted as a sovereign state, this announcement can only be accepted as information.

Continuing his presentation, Mr. Ben Gurion said that the Israel Government is particularly satisfied by the fact that the Allied Powers called for peace in the Middle East, took a stand against the use of force and pledged action against an aggressor in the area. He declared that as a member of the United Nations and as an interested party Israel feels that the U.N. should not be satisfied with the American-British-French statement, but should do everything in its power to encourage and speed up the process of stabilization in the Middle East through peace treaties between the Jewish state and the Arab countries. The Premier pledged his government to support any move in this direction launched by the U.N.

Returning to the three-nation announcement, he said that although the policy statement promised peace to the Middle East, no guarantee accompanied this promise. He welcomed the Big Powers' acknowledgment of the threat to Israel's security inherent in Arab rearmament and referred to the fact that the Jewish state drew the attention of the U.N. to the situation last February.

The Mapai and General Zionist deputies were among those who received the Premier's statement of policy favorably.

Jacob Rittin, speaking for Mapam, the left wing opposition, demanded that the government issue an explicit statement—and the Knesset endorse it—to the effect that Israel insists upon its unrestricted right to purchase arms in every part of the world, under conditions best for it and without being subject to, nor enslaved by, anybody.

Jacob Meridor, right wing Herut deputy, charged that the three power statement was a cloak for Britain's return to the Near East "through the back door." He specifically opposed the section of the policy statement calling for regional defense plans because his party rejects any agreements with the Arab states as long as some of them retain Palestine territory; he cited Egypt's presence in Gaza and Transjordan's control of the Old City of Jerusalem and the "triangle" area of central Palestine. He called for Israel to "stand up against the aggressors" in the future as it had done in the past.

Nathan Friedmann-Yellin, head of the Fighters Party, charged that the tri-partite policy "converts Israel into a protectorate of the Big Powers and compels the Jewish state to participate in the cold

war." Communist deputy Meir Wilner said that the Premier's statement was a sign that Israel was joining the Western Bloc and surrendering its freedom and sovereignty. He called on the Knesset to proclaim that Israel will not be converted into a springboard for the anti-Eastern European bloc.

Replying to his critics, Mr. Ben Gurion rejected all allegations that Israel would become a protectorate of any power. "We are grateful to those who helped us, whether they are Eastern or Western powers and we have no reason for severing our relations with any side," he insisted. "The government's announcement is based not upon what benefits the Big Three or the Cominform, but on the Israel Government's established policy. There is nothing in the tri-partite statement which affects our position."

Secretary of State Dean Acheson told members of the House and Senate at a joint meeting that the three power resolution on Near Eastern arms shipments "should greatly assist in promoting peace and stability in that important area."

Mr. Acheson, reporting on his meetings in London and Paris, said that he, British Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin and French Foreign Minister Robert Schumann "agreed on a firm policy toward arms shipments and security for the Arab States and Israel which should greatly assist in promoting peace and stability in that important area."

A LIBRARY OF HEROIC DEEDS

IN THE cellars containing the archives of the Israel Defence Army there is now a collection of about four million valuable documents on the history of self-defence from the days of the "Bilu" and "Hashomer" down to our own times. It is only with the greatest difficulty that this tremendous mass of material has been brought under control.

Most of the material in the archives has reference to the last period of the Haganah and the War of Liberation. A collection has been made of all the historical material of the units and brigades that have been disbanded. There are rows and rows of files dealing with the units who with their sweat and blood created the glorious, historic reality that is the State of Israel.

The photographic department is concentrated in a separate section. By the side of the pictures of the "Hashomer" period have been placed the pictures of the War of Liberation, showing those who brought in the convoys, the stocking caps, the sten-guns, the first uniforms, and other objects of interest, down to the latest operations in the liberation of the Negev and Operation Elath. Most affecting is the picture of young men in their stocking caps setting out in the darkness of night carrying on their backs food necessities for besieged Jerusalem.

It is the task of the archives to gather and preserve all the documentary matter connected with the self-defence of the people of Israel both in the Diaspora and in Israel. The archives are at the service of the public.

A further step in efforts to bring about an Arab-Israel peace was taken by the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine in Geneva. The Commission handed to the Arab states and Israel a note clarifying its proposals of last March 29 that sub-committees of Arab and Israel representatives be set up to deal with various aspects of a peace settlement. The notes also expressed the hope that the subcommittees would be established without further delay.

☆

The Government of Israel was urged to reject any connection between a new highway it is building and a reported Anglo-American supported super-highway between Istanbul and Cairo.

Moshe Sneh, leading member of the left-wing Mapam Party, who made the plea to Premier David Ben Gurion, also charged that the super-highway, which would reportedly be routed through Lebanon, Israel and the Sinai Desert, "is aimed to fit in with Anglo-American war plans."

Pointing to the planned Ras el Nakura-Faluka road, which would cross the length of Israel, Dr. Sneh quoted officials of the Premier's office who said that it would be broad enough to handle the widest cars, in accordance with international standards. He asserted that Syria could be tied into the Israel highway via a spur to Mishmar Hayarden, while Transjordan could be reached via a feeder route from Hebron.

☆

Within 24 hours after the Big Three announcement on a new policy on arms shipments to the Near East, shell fire from Transjordan territory destroyed cornfields south of Hebron which were being harvested by Israel Bedouins.

The continuous shell fire apparently did not injure any of the Arabs, but did set fire to the corn. The entire harvest and barns in which it had been stored were lost.

☆

United Nations observers are investigating reports that several members of the Transjordan Arab Legion stationed on Mt. Scopus in Jerusalem—where the Hebrew University and Hadassah Hospital are located—were wounded by Israelis. Israel quarters deny that such an incident occurred.

High-ranking Israel and Transjordan officers met to discuss the number and

locations of the mixed Arab-Jewish patrol posts to be established along the frontier between the two countries to guard against infiltrates.

☆

The Jewish Agency announced a new plan for the absorption and resettlement of young immigrants. In the future all physically fit, unmarried men and women from 17 to 35 years of age will not be accepted in immigrant reception camps, but will be sent to a special reception camp in Haifa. There they will be given a choice of entering a work camp or joining a collective or semi-collective settlement.

Another warning that the Israel Government alone cannot cope with the problem of immigrants' absorption, but that an all-out pioneering effort is needed was given by Premier David Ben Gurion. The Premier spoke at Kiryat Chaim at a convention of Mapai Party workers in agricultural settlements.

Mr. Ben Gurion criticized persons who felt that Socialism could only be "realized through the seizure of power." Israel will not go "this way," he stated, adding that "our method is based on voluntary effort and pioneering enterprise."

☆

Plans for the resettlement of 60,000 immigrants and their families in "tent villages" before the rainy season starts have been worked out by the Jewish Agency's Absorption Department and the Ministry of Labor.

The project calls for the establishment of colonies of canvas-walled, stout-roofed huts near work centers in various parts of the country. A total of 25,000 such tents will be erected near Safad, Tiberias, Hedera, Herzlia, Nathanya, Petach, Tikvah, Jerusalem and Beersheba.

☆

A comprehensive report on the situation of raw and building materials in Israel has been submitted to Parliament by Dr. Dov Joseph, Minister of Supply. Dr. Joseph was reported to have warned that if raw materials valued at £3,500,000 are not immediately imported by Israel, all factories and building will be paralyzed.

Work will begin this month on a artificial reservoir to hold 10,000,000 cubic meters of water to be used for irrigation and hydro-electric purposes, it was announced here today. The reservoir, which will be located in the Yavniel area, near

Tiberias, is one of the major components of the famous Lowdermilk plan for the rehabilitation of Israel's water and soil resources. It will cover 3,500 acres and will provide water for the Jordan Valley, the Yavniel Depression and Lower Galilee. A large dam and power station will be built across Wadi Fajjas. Teams of surveyors and engineers are now engaged in preparatory work.

☆

The largest and most modern clinic and hospital organized by the Kupat Holim—the nationwide health and medical service of the Histadrut—was dedicated at Petach Tikvah. The hospital when completed at a cost of approximately \$640,000, will contain 110 rooms and will serve an area of some 150,000 persons.

COMMON SOURCE FOR JEWISH AND CHRISTIAN MUSIC ANNOUNCED

THE common source of Jewish and Christian liturgical music in the ancient Jewish Temple in Jerusalem, a subject of controversy for almost 2,000 years, has been substantiated by Dr. Eric Werner, a leading American musicologist, composer and teacher.

The Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion has announced that Dr. Werner, after careful analysis of synagogue and church music and liturgy, and after exhaustive investigations of several European and Middle East sources, has established and documented the common origin of the music and liturgy—this has long been the contention of the Roman Catholic Church. Dr. Werner is professor of Jewish Music at the H.U.C. - J.I.R.

Msgr. Prince Rampolla, Papal Secretary, invited Dr. Werner to deliver an address on "The Interdependence of Synagogue, Byzantine and Gregorian Chant" before the International Congress of Catholic Church Music at the Pontifical Institute of Sacred Music in Rome at a special Holy Year convocation. While in Rome, Dr. Werner, at the invitation of Msgr. Iginio Angles, prefect of the Pontifical Institute of Sacred Music, presented some papers on the common liturgical and musical ground.

Dr. Werner has marshalled his evidence from many scattered sources, including France, Ireland, Germany, Italy, Greece, Armenia and the Balkans, and Palestine, Egypt, Syria, and Mesopotamia.

NEWS OF THE CENTER

Tickets For Coming High Holy Days

The Ritual and Religious Service Committee is now making plans for the sale of seats for the coming High Holy Days both in the Auditorium and the Synagogue. Members of the Center who occupied seats last year are urged to please notify the Center office immediately whether they wish to occupy the same seats during this year's High Holy Days. Seats not ordered will be assigned to other members wishing to worship at the Center.

Impressive Consecration Exercises Held On Shavuot

The annual Consecration Services took place on the first day of Shavuot, Monday, May 22nd, in the presence of a congregation that was filled to overflowing. The main theme was a "Cantata" called "The Role of Hassidism in Jewish Life," written by Dr. Levinthal and Rabbi Saltzman on a text suggested by Rabbi Louis I. Newmann, in which all the Consecrants participated. The songs depicted the beauty and the richness of the life of Hassidism. The class was assisted in the singing by our Men's Choral Group, under the leadership of Mr. Sholom Secunda, which added to the impressiveness of the occasion. Rabbi Saltzman addressed the Consecrants and Rabbi Lewittes conferred the blessings. Cantor Sauler was the soloist. Mrs. Laura Rubin is teacher of the class. The following girls constituted the Consecration Class this year: Judith Amster, Ileana Altman, Nina Ballas, Joyce Garber, Judith Goldstein, Deborah Kallen, Shari Kaye, Harriet Marco, Marcia Nurnberg, Judith Rosenthal, Bernice Sussman, Joan Seligman, Helen R. Wien, Irma Weitzman, Helene Wolfe, Rena Rosenbaum, Linda Resnick, Barbara Miller, Marion Yablon.

Young Folks League Continue Weekly Roof Meetings During Summer

The Young Folks League will continue their weekly meetings on the roof, weather permitting, every Tuesday evening. Admission is limited to members only upon presentation of their 1950 membership cards. Come and join in the sociability and cool relaxation of summer evenings.

During "Nine Days"

The Gym and Baths Department will be closed during the "Nine Days" beginning Sunday, July 16th through Sunday, July 23rd. The department will reopen as usual on Monday morning, July 24th at 10 a.m. for women.

Holiday Gym Schedule July 4th

The Gym and Baths Department will be open on Tuesday, July 4th for men from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and for boys from 2 to 5 p.m.

Summer Gymnasium Schedule

The following Gym and Baths Department schedule will prevail during July and August:

Monday:

Women 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.;

Men—3 to 10:00 p.m.

Boys—3 to 5 p.m.

Tuesday:

Women—10 a.m. to 10 p.m.;

Girls—3 to 5 p.m.

Wednesday:

Women—10 a.m. to 3 p.m.;

Men—3 to 10 p.m.

Boys—3 to 5 a.m.

Thursday:

Women—10 a.m. to 5 p.m.;

Girls—3 to 5 p.m.;

Men—5 to 10 p.m.

Friday:

Men and Boys—1 to 6 p.m.

Sundays and Legal Holidays:

Men 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.;

Boys—2 to 5 p.m.

Summer Library Schedule

The Library of the Center will be open during July and August on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 4 to 8 p.m., and on Fridays from 2 to 5 p.m.

Acknowledgment of Gifts

We acknowledge with thanks receipt of a donation for the purchase of Prayer Books and Taleisim from the following: Mr. and Mrs. Herman J. Greenhut in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of their son Philip.

Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Kotimsky in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Melvyn Roy.

Mr. and Mrs. Herman Swarzman in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Herbert.

Sabbath Services

Friday evening services at 6:00.

Kindling of candles at 8:11.

Sabbath services, "Hukat" Numbers 19:1-22:1; Prophets-Judges 11:1-33, will commence at 8:30 a.m.

Mincha services at 6:00 p.m.

Rabbi Saltzman will preach on the weekly portion of the Torah.

Daily Services

Morning services at 7:00 and 8:00 o'clock.

Mincha services at 7:30 p.m.

Additions to Library

The following books have been added to our library and are now in circulation:

The Republic of Israel—*Dunner*

The Book of Kings I & II

Soncino

Jerusalem Has Many Faces

Stampfer

Report On Israel—*Irwin Shaw*

Embarkation—*Murray Gitlin*

Young Hearts—*David Maletz*

In Search—*Meyer Levin*

The Wedding—*Hanna Stein*

I Saw the Battle of Jerusalem

Harry Levin

The Army of Israel

Col. Moshe Pearlman

A Guide to the Talmud

Harry Silverstone

Beth Ha B'Hirah

R. Menaham Meiri (Hebrew)

We gratefully acknowledge receipt of gifts of books for our library from the following:

Mr. Ben S. Michaelson in memory of Mrs. Michaelson.

Dr. and Mrs. David Farber in honor of the birth of a grandson.

Inta League Clubs, B. J. C.

Mr. and Mrs. Irvin Rubin

Dr. Abraham Asen

Mr. R. Shields

Bar Mitzvah

A hearty Mazel Tov is extended to Dr. and Mrs. Arthur Isaacs of 125 Ocean Avenue on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Robert Messing, which will be celebrated at the Center this Sabbath morning, June 24th.

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

The following have applied for membership in the Brooklyn Jewish Center:

ANDERMAN, Miss TERRY
Res. 955 Hegeman Ave.

*Proposed by Stanley S. Leshaw,
Sylvia Perlow*

BASSUK, JACOB
Res. 572 Montgomery St.
Bus. Real Estate, 79 Tompkins Ave.
Married

*Proposed by Abraham Silverman,
Leo Kaufmann*

BERGER, MURRAY H.
Res. 761 Blake Ave.
Bus. Printing, 200 Varick St.
Single

Proposed by S. Lorie Weksler

GOLDSTEIN, Miss HENRIETTA
Res. 356 East 2nd St.
Proposed by Nat Horowitz

KASARSKY, Miss GLADYS
Res. Linden Blvd.
*Proposed by Marvin Blickstein,
Morton Weinberger*

KRISCHER, SAM
Res. 1771—49th St.
Bus. Diamonds, 36 W. 47th St.
Single
Proposed by Benj. Kestenbaum

LESSING, Miss RHODA
Res. 1511 Sterling Pl.

MESSINGER, JACK
Res. 201 Eastern Parkway
Bus. Lawyer, 251 W. 42nd St.
Married
*Proposed by Herman Lambert,
Jacob J. Schwartzwald*

POSKLENSKY, DAVID
Res. 520 East 48th St.
Bus. Television Service
Single

ROSS, MILTON
Res. 105 Sutter Ave.
Bus. Accountant, 505—5th Ave.
Single
*Proposed by William Brief,
Seymour Eisenstadt*

SHAPIRO, JERRY
Res. 1225 Eastern Parkway
Bus. Accountant, 347 Madison Ave.
Single

SIEGEL, Miss TERRY
Res. 4812—14th Ave.
*Proposed by Harold Kalb,
Jack M. Zolotsky*

ZWERIN, EDWARD H.
Res. 1381 St. Marks Ave.
Bus. Photography, 40-03 National Avenue

*Proposed by Muriel Goldsmith,
Louis Sklar*

Late Applications:

GELDZEILER, Miss BESS
Res. 125 Division Ave.

GREENBERG, WILLIAM H.
Res. 641 Crown St.
Bus. Wholesale Mdse.
Single

*Proposed by Kenneth Levine,
Helen Brasner*

LOWE, AARON E.
Res. 1289 Union St.
Bus. Adult Games, 27 W. 20th St.
Single

SILVERSTEIN, BENJAMIN
Res. 263 Brooklyn Ave.
Bus. Contractor
Married

*Proposed by Herman L. Wein,
Milton Harris*

SUROWITZ, FRANK
Res. 277 Eastern Parkway
Bus. Lawyer, City of N. Y.
Married

*Proposed by Chas. Rubenstein,
Maurice Bernhardt*

ZINN, PAUL
Res. 201 Crown St.
Bus. Paper, 30 Gt. Jones St.
Married

*Proposed by Edward I. Becker
SAMUEL H. GOLDBERG,
Chairman, Membership Committee.*

Baccalaureate Service to Our Graduates

The annual Baccalaureate Service for the graduates of all the schools of our institution, as well as for the members of the Consecration Class, will be held this Sabbath morning, June 24th. Rabbi Lewittes will preach the baccalaureate sermon. The graduates of our Hebrew School, Sunday School, Post Graduate Class, Post Bar Mitzvah Fellowship, Senior Group and Center Academy are all asked to be present. Their parents too are invited and urged to attend this service.

The Benjamin Hirsh Memorial Award, which is offered annually to a member of the Junior Congregation will be awarded at this Service.

Young Married Group Ends Fine Season

The Young Married Group of the Center has a fine record of successful meetings and affairs for this season. At the last meeting in May they were privileged to have our own Rabbi Manuel Saltzman speak to them on the subject "Jewish Attitude Toward the Family." Rabbi Saltzman emphasized the point that "Kidushin" or sanctity has always been the cornerstone of the successful Jewish marriage. He also brought out the relevancy of Jewish law ethics, and customs to the young American couple. The discussion which followed was stimulating and provocative. Other meetings during the season were enjoyed most pleasantly by the featuring of movies, quiz games, "Eternal Light" scripts, special programs for timely Jewish holidays, etc. Each meeting was concluded with the serving of delicious refreshments, and dancing and socializing followed. The concluding meeting of the season on June 22nd set aside for Election of Officers and featured a "Square Dance" proved to be a most delightful end of season program. The group hopes to continue their fine activities next season and invites all Young married couples to join their ranks.

Personal

Dr. Jules B. Aaron, son of the late Mr. Hyman Aaron and Mrs. Aaron, has successfully completed his examinations for specialization and has been certified as a Diplomate of the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

The Loss of Hyman Aaron

(Continued from page 4)

One of the functions of the ancient priests was *bedek babayit*, to take charge of the examination of the physical condition of the Holy Temple. In this sense, too, Mr. Aaron was a true priest. As Chairman of our House Committee, he watched over every nook and corner of the Center. If we glory in its beautiful condition, we owe this in large measure to his watchful eye.

He took an interest in every worthwhile undertaking. He was proud of the achievements in Israel and took pride in every progress that was made in the religious life of American Jewry.

We share with his family his loss. His name will ever be remembered by us with blessing. ISRAEL H. LEVINTHAL.

IN OUR HEBREW SCHOOL

IMPRESSIVE graduation exercises were held by the Hebrew and Religious Schools on Sunday, June 11. Awards were given to the following:

The Kushner Memorial Award to Harold Kushner.

Post Graduate Hebrew Award to Tobia Brown. Honorable Mention, Shirley Arenow and Rena Rosenbaum.

Young Folks Award to Robert Gluckman, Julia Heimowitz and Sandor Schaeffer.

The Rachmil Gold Medal for General Excellence to Sol Tanenzapf.

The Parent-Teachers Association gift to Arthur Rudy.

The Faculty Gifts to Harvey Gottlieb and Paul Kushner. Honorable Mention, Edith Glanz and Barbara Gross.

Sunday School Gift for General Excellence to Ruth Lieberman. Honorable Mention, Lucile Math, and Phyllis Lorberblatt.

The following received diplomas and certificates:

HEBREW SCHOOL GRADUATES

Norman Berkowitz, Ruth Berman, Arthur Brimberg, Bernard Brooks, David Dinin, Bernice Eiselman, Jeannette Flamm, Edith Glanz, Robert Gnaizda, Robert Goldberg, Marilyn Goldstein, Harvey Gottlieb, Barbara Gross, Burton Honig, Joseph Karp, Jerome Kern, Paul Kushner, Lawrence Levy, Ellen Palley, Alan Richman, Arthur J. Rudy, Robert Sale, Sol Tanenzapf, Richard Weinberger, Stanley Weinstock.

SUNDAY SCHOOL GRADUATES

Sara Berenson, Rhoda Bernstein, June Beskin, Mary Ann Gittleman, Ann Halperin, Marsha Katz, Ruth Lieberman, Marilyn Levine, Phyllis Lorberblatt, Gloria Leffer, Lucille Math, Joyce Perlin, Janet Ross, Jewel Schachter, Elaine Seideman, Joan Smallberg, Renee Stelzer, Rochelle Willick.

POST-GRADUATE HEBREW CLASS

CERTIFICATES

Helen Aronow, Tobia Brown, Irving Dworetzky, Rena Rosenbaum, Alan Sloate, Corinne Zucker.

POST-BAR MITZVAH CERTIFICATES

Melvin Aminoff, Norman Beris, Laurence Berger, Morton Cohen, Paul Davis, Robert Gluckman, David Goldstein, Harvey Greenberg, Harold Kushner, Amnon Orent, Samuel Rappaport, Alan Sloate, Richard Stadin, David Teperson.

SENIOR GROUP CERTIFICATES

Shirley Aronow, Julia Heimowitz, Ruth Klinghoffer, Robert Kritz, Isabel Miller, Sandor Schaeffer.

* * *

Registration for the new term is now in progress. It is most important for parents of students now enrolled as well as parents of new students to enroll their children before the close of June. Since our school boasts a peak registration, we have been forced to turn away some latecomers. Prompt registration will assure the student of a place in our school and will make for an efficient start at the beginning of the new academic semester. The first day of the new semester has been set for Thursday, September 7, 1950, at 10:00 A.M.

* * *

The final meeting of the P.T.A. for the year was held on Wednesday, May 17. Mrs. Julius Kushner, who presided, presented a report on activities for the past year. She pointed out that the P.T.A. had enjoyed a very successful season and aided the Hebrew School in many of its extra-curricular activities. Mrs. G. Spinrad presented a brief address on celebrating Shavuot. Rabbi Lewittes, in his progress report, emphasized the raising of standards during the past year and the continuation of Jewish education in the

high school years after Bar Mitzvah or after graduation from the elementary Hebrew School. The guest speaker, Mrs. Augusta Saretzky, consultant of the Jewish Education Committee, spoke on new trends in Jewish education. Cantor William Sauler rendered several songs in Hebrew and Yiddish.

The annual collection for the Histruth Ivrit was carried on successfully by the students of the Hebrew School under the direction of Mr. Edelheit. A total of \$285. was collected. These funds are to be used for Hebrew publications and the promotion of Hebrew culture in the community.

CHILDREN'S SERVICE FOR HIGH HOLY DAYS TO BE INTRODUCED

At a recent meeting of the Ritual committee it was decided to form a special service during the High Holy Days for children in the lower grades of our school. This service will be conducted by one of the members of our faculty and will be free to all.

In addition, the Junior Congregation will conduct its regular service in the Beth Hamidrash. The Junior Congregation services are designed for boys and girls up to the age of 18 and for students in our higher grades. The cost of tickets is \$2.50. The services will be conducted under the direction of Rabbi Mordecai H. Lewittes and the officers of the Junior Congregation.

JUNIOR LEAGUE CLOSES SUCCESSFUL SEASON

THE Junior League has just completed one of its most successful seasons. There is no doubt that this success is due, in a large measure, to the efforts of the group's leader, Mr. Joseph Aaron and its officers, consisting of Allan Levy, President; Irene Spatt and June Goldstein, Vice-Presidents; Gene Eckstein, Secretary; Dianne Staden, Treasurer; also members of the Executive Board—Joel Sugar, Hugh Greenberg, Jack Sprung, Doris Ohlsen and Marty Karlin.

The season was rich in both cultural and social highlights and the best proof of its success was the excellent attendance all through the year. The group welcomed the Jewish holidays with a panel discussion on the meaning of "Rosh Hashanah to the American Youth." A youth leader from the Zionist Organization of America addressed us on the

progress of the State of Israel. The attitude of the Jews in the November elections provided a spirited political evening. Our College Youth Service in December proved successful beyond our fondest dreams. Rabbi Saltzman provided one of the most interesting evenings with a discussion of the problem of intermarriage. During Jewish Music month, Mr. Sholom Secunda visited with us and brought the history of Jewish Music to life for us. During Brotherhood Week, a speaker from NAACP discussed intergroup relations on the American scene. In April we heard a report on Yemenite Life from Mr. Gluska, Yemenite member of the Israeli Knesset. The last of our specifically Jewish programs was a discussion of American Jewish Congress Activities by the Assistant Director of the

Brooklyn Jewish division. The programs were rich socially too. Of course, the Spring Prom was the year's highlight. Its success was made possible by the fine sociable spirit developed at our monthly socials, our mid-winter hop and our United Jewish Appeal social, at which we raised over \$1,000.00 in contributions. Other programs included square dances, novelty game nights and on the more serious side, some fine musicales. Occasional movies, book reviews, panel discussions on timely topics all added zest and variety to our programs.

Next year many of our leaders are moving on into the Young Folks League. We hope that our new officers and Executive Committee who were elected to office on June 8th will prove as able in providing inspired meetings for our Junior League, the College Age group of the Center.

THE YOUNGER MEMBERSHIP

BY THE time this is in print the new administration of the Young Folks League will have been elected. It is therefore, my pleasure to express my heartfelt thanks, as well as that of the members of the Young Folks League, to the outgoing administration for their splendid work and cooperation. To the officers, members of the executive committee, the many chairmen and members of the Young Folks League who were instrumental in effectuating our cultural, social and philanthropic program goes our sincere appreciation.

Though it may be said with all due modesty, that the past year has been a banner year in the annals of the Young Folks League, we cannot rest on our laurels, nor feel contented. The Young Folks League must not only maintain its present standards, but must intensify its efforts in as many aspects of Jewish communal life as possible, so that we may be in fact emulating the finest traditions of the Center.

I feel confident that the incoming administration will strive to be equal to this task. To all of you, the best of luck for a very fruitful year.

—MILTON REINER, *President*.

Graduations

Miss Grace Gribetz, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Louis J. Gribetz, graduated from Cornell University with a degree of B.S. Miss Gribetz took special courses

CENTER ACADEMY GRADUATION

ON WEDNESDAY morning, June 14th, the Graduation exercises of the Center Academy took place. It was an occasion of joy and solemnity. Parents, grandparents, relatives, friends, staff, officers of the school and the Rabbis of the Center all were there to wish our graduates well.

The two plays—one English and one Hebrew which were presented by the graduates, are indicative of the kind of activities that the Center Academy stresses and of the great variety of information the boys and girls acquire during their stay in school.

The trips to Philadelphia, Boston and Washington which they took during this year to enhance the learning of the past and present history of the people of the United States, served as a basis for the English play entitled, "Was It Real?"

The Hebrew play, "Yisrael Ha'Miklath Shel Ha'Olim Ha-Ivrim" or "Israel—the Refuge of the Jewish Immigrant," showed how thoroughly familiar these boys and girls are with the spiritual, social and economic problems with which

in law and labor relationship. She had a leading role in the Octagon Play.

Miss Marilyn Mittman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Mittman of 283 Montgomery Street was graduated from New York University School of Education, receiving a B.S. degree.

Congratulations

Heartiest congratulations and best wishes are extended to:

Dr. and Mrs. Nathan Adler of 1269 President Street on the birth of a son, Roger Franklin, to their children Dr. and Mrs. Daniel H. Adler in May; also on the birth of a son, Norman Seth, to their children Mr. and Mrs. Herbert M. Perr of Rockville Center, L. I., also born in May.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Buchman of 655 Montgomery Street on the marriage of their son, Irwin P., to Miss Lenore Rosenberg on June 25th.

Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Gottlieb of 1601 Carroll Street on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, Mark L., at the Center on June 24th.

Mr. and Mrs. Solomon Mitrani of 444 Crown Street on the marriage of their daughter, Donna, to Mr. Alfred Abram-

son the new immigrants to Israel, as well as the new Government of Israel itself, are confronted. Of both plays the graduates were the authors, producers and actors. They selected the themes, wrote the dialogue and the lyrics. They, too, painted the scenery and created the incidental music and dances. The audience was enthusiastic in their approval.

Mr. Vandenneke was in charge of the English play, Miss Prenskey of music, Mr. Harris of the scenery and Miss Bush of the Hebrew play.

The graduates are: Elaine Claire Applebaum, Barry Bloom, Nancy Lee Blumberg, Judith Pearl Cederbaum, James Cohen, Rena Globe, Stephen Greenberg, Joel Hurwitz, Janet Rosenfeld, Barbara Satlow.

Best wishes for a happy and healthy summer to our staff, student body, officers of the Center Academy and of the Brooklyn Jewish Center. Last, but not least, a happy summer and a very happy future to our graduates. They were a wonderful class to teach and to live with and we will miss each one of them.

son of Philadelphia at the Center on June 18th.

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel N. Shapiro of 1311a Carroll Street and Mr. and Mrs. Max Goldberg of 410 Eastern Parkway on the marriage of their children, Lora Shapiro to Robert Goldberg at the Center on June 20th.

Mr. Abraham Shapiro of 725 St. Marks Avenue on the Bar Mitzvah of his grandson, Erich Wolf Segal, on June 24th.

Dr. Martin M. Shir of 652 Eastern Parkway on the marriage of his daughter, Florence, to Mr. Martin Osman on June 18th. Congratulations are also extended to the grandmother, Mrs. Lena Rosenman.

Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Silber of 1141 President Street on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Ronald, on July 1st.

Seminary Confers New Honor On Dr. Levinthal

At the graduation exercises of the Jewish Theological Seminary last Sunday, June 18th, Rabbi Levinthal was awarded the Solomon Schechter Citation. This year's graduation took note of the fiftieth anniversary of the Rabbinical Assembly of America, the organization that is composed mostly of the alumni of the Seminary.

PAGING SISTERHOOD!

"Gratia cum laude"—thanks with praise to all of our Sisterhood women who have contributed so much effort, interest and cooperation toward the phenomenal success of our 1949-1950 program. It is a tribute to you that Sisterhood has grown to such stature. We may well be proud of our record. Let us, then, adjourn for the summer in well-merited leisure, secure in the knowledge that we have adequately served our Synagogue and our community.

SARAH KLINGHOFFER, *President.*

In Memoriam

"In nothing do men more nearly approach the gods than in doing good to their fellowmen." Hyman Aaron, our late Vice-President, more than any other individual deserves this epitaph. The institutions which he founded and lovingly tended, our own Center in particular, will forever remain as a monument to his greatness of heart, his breadth of soul and his sympathetic generosity. Although we shall miss him much in the years to come, we shall remember him for the good he has done to his fellowmen.

Sisterhood's Bouquets to Mothers

The manner in which Sisterhood paid tribute to our mothers this year was most unusual, for we presented them with floral, pictorial, lyric and dramatic bouquets. Twelve members who had celebrated their golden wedding anniversaries were honored in an impressive ceremony, preceded by a procession fittingly synchronized with the music of the "Anniversary Song" played by Ruth Bernhard. Those honored included Mesdames Philip Asher, Abraham Ginsburg, Pincus Glickman, Jacob Goell, Joseph Horowitz, Sol Horowitz, Samuel Katz, Jacob Macklowe, Morris Neinken, Jacob Reibstein, Meyer Rosen and Samuel Rottenberg. Lila Leonard, chairman of the afternoon presented each celebrant with a corsage of red carnations, beribboned in gold. Evelyn Sachs, Metropolitan Opera contralto, serenaded them in a program dedicated particularly to mothers,—a truly lyric bouquet, after which Mrs. Joseph Horowitz, a guest of honor, delivered a most eloquent and dramatic address on "Matriarchs In Israel." This was the

dramatic contribution to the bouquet. The pictorial phase was generously donated by Bernard and Anne Weisberg, who recorded in a moving picture the glorious events of this memorable program.

Installation of Officers

The Annual Meeting, held on Monday evening, June 5th, was another eventful and well-attended function. From every angle, the program was "different" from most trite installation exercises, yet it lacked nothing of formality, dignity or charm. Mrs. Abraham Lasky, President of the Metropolitan Branch of the National Women's League, who, as Installing Officer, treated us to a novel procedure. As she installed each officer, she extolled her virtues in verse, to the delight of all assembled. The gala atmosphere continued with the presentation of the technicolor film of Sisterhood's activities on Mothers' Day.

Officers of Sisterhood

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Mrs. M. Robert Epstein *Vice-President*
Mrs. Joseph Levy, Jr. *Vice-President*
Mrs. Frank Schaeffer *Vice-President*
Mrs. Hyman Rachmil *Treasurer*
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Mrs. Benjamin H. Wisner *Corr. Secy.*
Mrs. Harry Zakhem *Social Secretary*

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Kiddush

The kiddush on June 10th, Rosh Chodesh, was sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. Sigmund Schwartz in honor of their son's graduation from the Medical School of the Long Island University, and his appointment to the staff of the Jewish Hospital.

A Vote of Thanks to "Hershey" Kaplan

We wish to express our sincere gratitude and thanks to "Hershey" Kaplan for her splendid chairmanship of Sisterhood's UJA campaign. Under her expert leadership, she unified the efforts of several groups in our Center, the results of which will prove of great benefit to the State of Israel. Her committee included Jeanette Richman, for Deborah Hadassah, Sylvia Sheinberg representing Eastern Parkway Chapter of Hadassah, Hebrew School, P.T.A. President Sarah Kushner and Hilda Geffen who served for the Center Academy. Special Gifts Chairman Lil Lowenfeld contributed much effort and time toward the success of the campaign. Although she is retiring temporarily from active service, we know Sisterhood can rely upon "Hershey" to give of herself in the future as she has so generously in the past. For all of which, "Hershey," take many bows and curtain calls, you have truly earned them.

Women In the News

Mabel Berman, member of our Executive Board, has been elected President of the Eastern Parkway Chapter of Hadassah; Ruth Bernhardt, our former President, celebrated her 25th wedding anniversary on June 7th. Heartiest congratulations! Bon Voyage to Frieda Katz, Sisterhood member and former Mizrachi president, who, together with her family, is leaving for a trip to Israel.

Mrs. Morris B. Levine has been elected President and Mrs. M. Robert Epstein, Secretary, of the newly formed Parkway Chapter of Brooklyn Hadassah.

Mrs. Julius Kushner was elected Vice-President of the United Parents Teachers Association.

A TALE OF OUR TIMES

(Continued from page 13)

Manchester music critic visiting the United States, was silent. Soon his silence became obvious.

"And you, Bert," said Hans, turning to him, "you did not think it magnificent?"

"Truly so," answered Alburton, softly, "the first time I heard it."

"Then you know our Emil," said Fanni, her hand covering Emil's.

"No," answered Alburton.

"But. . ."

The words ceased abruptly and the eyes turned — stared — first with question. . . .

"Why. . ."

"What. . ."

". . . does he mean. . ."

Herbert Alburton faced Emil. "You knew Ernst Blecher," he stated, rather than questioned.

"Yes," Emil, now white-faced, replied, and arising from his chair, walked from the table, from the restaurant.

Lisa sat stunned, but as the door closed after Emil she realized that she must reach him, be with him. Swiftly she, too, arose, followed him.

As she reached the door as she opened

it, the breaths which had been held, sucked in, spat out the word: "Stole" and then, gathering momentum, until she felt as if she were in the center of a hurricane, the word: "Thief."

She saw Emil at the end of the block and hurried to him, tried to take his arm, but he shook her off.

"I told you, once," he said harshly, "it is no use."

"It doesn't matter."

"That I am a crook. That I stole another man's melody."

"It doesn't matter."

"Is it impossible for you to see—that it cannot be different."

"No! No!" she said, holding his arm close to her.

"Lisa," gently he disengaged her clutching fingers, "I did not want it to be this way. But from the beginning—I could not control. . . ." He walked on—swiftly walked on.

And through the misted night she thought she heard a voice that might have been Emil's, a voice that kept intoning, "Elsbeth. . . . Elsbeth, my wife. . . ."

ZOHAR—THE BOOK OF SPLENDOR

(Continued from page 8)

his presence able to be eluded. Thereupon the Almighty stirs up a raging storm; that is, the judgment of a man, which stands always before the Holy One, be blessed, and relentlessly seeks his punishment. This it is then that strikes at the ship, and remembering man's sins, seizes him; then the man is caught in the tempest and illness fells him, just as Jonah "was gone down into the innermost parts of the ship; and he lay, and was fast asleep" (*ibid.* 1:5). Though the man thus lies felled, still his soul makes no move to return to his Master, to return and atone for his sins. Hence "the shipmaster came to him," that is, he who is the all-around helmsman, and the Good Inclination, "and said unto him: What meanest thou that thou sleepest? arise, call upon thy God" (*ibid.* 1:6); this is no time for sleeping: you are about to be taken up to stand trial for all your deeds in this world. Repent of your wrongdoing. Bend your mind to these matters and return to your Master.

THE ROSE OF SHARON

Discoursing on the verse: "I am a rose of Sharon, a lily of the valleys" (*Cant.* 2:1) Rabbi Simeon said: The Holy One, be blessed, bears great love to the Community of Israel, wherefore he constantly praises her, and she, from the store of chants and hymns she keeps for the King, constantly sings his praises.

Because she flowers splendidly in the Garden of Eden, the Community of Israel is called rose of Sharon; because her desire is to be watered from the deep stream which is the source of all spiritual rivers, she is called lily of the valleys.

NEW BOOKS

"MODERN HEBREW LITERATURE," Trends and Values. By Simon Halkin.

The first work in English offering both the background and an evaluation of the chief literary works from the time of the European Haskalah (Enlightenment), up to the present day in Israel. Dr. Halkin, who received his education in the United States, is a noted Hebrew poet.

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There is hardly anything in the world that some men cannot make a little worse and sell a little cheaper, and the people who consider price only are this man's lawful prey.

—JOHN RUSKIN.

THE STORY OF A LONG STEP BACKWARD

(Continued from page 10)

ever it intended to accomplish, actually achieved their political and social ruin.

The Church had for centuries tried to place the Jews in an inferior, if not an impossible, position. It had even claimed jurisdiction over them. If it failed in this, since the secular powers derived certain advantages from control over the Jews, it nevertheless kept up a steady barrage of anti-Jewish legislation and propaganda. For a variety of reasons, Church influence was growing during this period of the 12th and 13th centuries. Canon law began to color and even creep into the domain of civil law, to some extent because of the fact that most legalists were Churchmen. The lawbooks which derived from, or followed the example of, the *Sachsenspiegel* showed progressive hostility to Jews and Judaism.

The third influence came a little later. It stemmed from interest in the study of Roman law. The late codes which Roman emperors had issued dated from the time when these emperors looked upon themselves as heads and defenders of the new Christian religion. These codes, now revived, were almost artificially superimposed upon the laws of the Germans and helped to divert, if not distort them. They decidedly fortified the deteriorating anti-Jewish attitudes.

The Jew, who until the First Crusade had held a relatively favorable position in Central Europe, now became an outcast about whom every evil could be believed. What lay behind this change, Dr. Kisch maintains, was neither racialism nor nationalism. These theories are modern explanations which Nazis used to good advantage. The former, Dr. Kisch proves, was unknown; the latter was practically unrecognized. The economic explanation, based on the assumption that a Jewish group was tolerated only as long as it was economically useful, comes closer to the truth, but would not of itself explain everything. It would have to be combined with religious distinctiveness to have any meaning for the deterioration which took place.

The point is that throughout the Middle Ages the forces of decency and tolerance persisted. Good historical writing, the result of profound research and clear reasoning and lucid presentation,

does not, of course, aim to teach moral lessons. Nor does it necessarily have to offer any principles for the guidance of modern life. Yet one cannot put down Dr. Kisch's volume without feeling that somehow it offers proof that even German character, which we have witnessed and which he experienced in all its horror, is not essentially evil. It might have developed differently in its relations to the Jews, as in other respects. External forces gave it a fateful turn in the late Middle Ages. May not new forces assert themselves? May not similar evil forces be abroad in the rest of the world today? A Jew must always know the past as well as the present and learn to distinguish between the evil and the good.

A postscript is in order about how this volume came to be published. The American Academy for Jewish Research, fully aware of Dr. Kisch's great scholarship, made it possible for him to do some of the preparatory work for this book, but it did not have the funds to publish it. During the past half dozen years, many Jews gave vast sums to all kinds of causes, some sensible and some foolish. But none could be found with enough perspicacity, with enough appreciation of modern scholarship, to make the publication of this highly significant study possible. It was left to the Chicago University Press to recognize outstanding merit. In this, too, there is a lesson.

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